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allow access to a selected subset of the electronic documents by using a security key and a document resource identifier.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1, 3-8, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 23 and 28 have been amended. Claim 2 has been canceled. No claims have been added. Thus, claims 1 and 3-28 remain pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-4, 8-12, 14-18, 22, 23, 27 and 28 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,848,413 issued to Wolff, et al. (*Wolff*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,477 issued to Hull, et al. (*Hull*) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,188,673 issued to Bauer, et al. (*Bauer*). Claim 2 has been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claim 2 is moot. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3, 4, 8-12, 14-18, 22, 23, 27 and 28 are not rendered obvious by any combination of *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer*.

Claim 1 recites:

> a multifunction machine to supply multiple electronic documents that have been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic documents;
>
> a filter coupled with the multifunction machine to transform selected electronic documents for publication;
>
> a server coupled to the filter, the server having memory to store the electronic documents, the server to selectively permit access to the published electronic documents.

Thus, the filter transforming selected documents for publication and the server selectively providing access to published documents.

The section of *Wolff* cited in the Office Action discloses a gateway that receives a fax document and transforms the fax document to a hypertext document. See col. 7, lines 29-20 and 40-44. The documents are stored and identifiers are provided. See col. 7, lines 58-60. However, *Wolff* does not disclose selective publication.

Hull is cited to teach storing documents without user intervention. See col. 6, lines 49-51. Thus, *Hull* discloses archival of documents. However, *Hull* does not disclose transformation and selective publication of archived documents that are saved without user intervention. *Bauer* is cited to teach tracking of access to a published document; however, that portion of the claim has been deleted.

Therefore, neither *Wolff* nor *Hull* disclose selective publication and selective access to published documents that have been saved without an explicit user command and *Bauer* does not teach publication of documents. Thus, no combination of *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer* teaches or suggests the invention as claimed in claim 1.

Claims 3, 4 and 8-12 depend from claim 1. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 3, 4 and 8-12 are similarly not rendered obvious by *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer*.

Claim 14 recites:

> a multifunction machine saving a copy of multiple electronic documents to a server in the absence of an explicit command by a user and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic documents;
>
> selecting a subset of the multiple saved electronic documents for publication;
>
> sending a network document identifier and password for accessing the one or more selected electronic documents; and

accessing the electronic document using the network documents identifier and password.

Thus, Applicants claim selective publication and providing a network identifier and password to allow a recipient to access the published documents.

As discussed above, neither *Wolff* nor *Hull* disclose selective publication of electronic documents that have been saved without an explicit user command and *Bauer* does not teach publication of documents. Thus, no combination of *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer* teaches or suggests the invention as claimed in claim 14.

Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 14. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 15 and 16 are similarly not rendered obvious by *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer*.

Claim 17 is directed to a computer-implemented method and recites:

> receiving multiple electronic documents at a server that have been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic documents; and
>
> the server allowing access to a selected subset of the electronic documents by using a security key and a document resource identifier.

Thus, Applicants claim use of a server that receives documents that have been saved in the absence of an explicit command and selectively publishes the documents by allowing access to a selected subset of the electronic documents. Claim 22 is a means-plus-function claim that recites similar limitations. Claim 28 is directed to an article of manufacture having one or more recordable media and recites similar limitations.

As discussed above, neither *Wolff* nor *Hull* disclose selective publication of electronic documents that have been saved without an explicit user command and *Bauer* does not teach publication of documents. Thus, no combination of *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer*

teaches or suggests a server that selectively provides access to the electronic documents as claimed in claims 17, 22 and 28.

Claim 18 depends from claim 17. Claims 23, 24 and 27 depend from claim 22. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 18, 23, 24 and 27 are similarly not rendered obvious by *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Bauer*.

Claims 5-7, 19-21 and 24-26 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Wolff* in view of *Hull* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,317,777 issued to Skarbo, et al. (*Skarbo*). *Skarbo* is cited to teach auto-deletion of an electronic document. Whether or not *Skarbo* discloses auto-deletion, *Skarbo* does not cure the deficiencies of *Wolff* and *Hull* as described above. Therefore, no combination of *Wolff*, *Hull* and *Skarbo* teaches or suggests the invention as claimed in claims 5-7, 19-21 and 24-26.

Claim 13

Applicants note that claim 13 was not rejected in the Office Action mailed October 23, 2002. Therefore, Applicants assume that claim 13 contains allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1 and 3-28 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Signature 1/23/03 *Date*

MARKED VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A system comprising:

a multifunction machine to supply multiple [an] electronic documents [document] that [has] have been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents [document] and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic [document] documents;

a filter coupled with the multifunction machine to transform [the] selected electronic documents [document] for publication;

a server coupled to the filter, the server having memory to store the electronic documents [document], the server to selectively permit [permitting] access to the published electronic documents [document using a document identifier and sending, to a publisher-designated location, information regarding the number of accesses to the electronic document that have occurred].

3. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 1 wherein the multifunction machine comprises a print driver that selectively publishes [the] one or more electronic [document] documents on a network.

4. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 1 wherein the filter provides one or more target authorized users with [document identifier comprises] a Universal Resource Locator (URL) corresponding to a published electronic document.

5. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 1 wherein the server deletes one or more published documents [the document] based upon existence of a condition.

6. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 5 wherein the condition comprises one or more accesses [is an access] by [an] one or more authorized [user] users.

7. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 5 wherein the condition comprises [is] a predetermined time after the document has been stored on the server.

8. (Twice Amended) The system defined in Claim 1 wherein the server maintains access logs and updates the access logs each time a published [the] electronic document is accessed.

12. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 11 wherein the server manager automatically sends an electronic mail message to the publisher in response to the electronic document being accessed by a user.

14. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

a multifunction machine saving a copy of [an] multiple electronic documents [document] to a server in the absence of an explicit command by a user and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic [document] documents;

selecting a subset of the multiple saved electronic documents for publication;

sending a network document identifier and password for accessing the one or more selected electronic [document] documents; and

accessing the electronic document using the network documents identifier and password[; and

sending an electronic message indicating the number of accesses to the electronic document that have occurred].

17. (Twice Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving [an] multiple electronic documents [document] at a server that have [has] been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents [document] and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic [document] documents; and

the server allowing access to a selected subset of the electronic documents [document] by using a security key and a document resource identifier[; and

the server automatically notifying a publisher that an electronic document has been accessed].

18. (Twice Amended) The method defined in Claim 17 further comprising [wherein] the server automatically notifying [notifies] a user that an electronic mail message containing a Universal Resource Locator (URL) has been sent from a server.

22. (Twice Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving [an] multiple electronic documents [document] at a server that have [has] been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents [document] and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic [document] documents; and

means for allowing access to a selected subset of the electronic documents [document] by using a security key and a document resource identifier[; and

means for automatically notifying a publisher that an electronic document has been accessed].

23. (Twice Amended) The apparatus defined in Claim 22 [wherein] further comprising means for automatically notifying [notifies] a user that an electronic-mail message containing a Universal Resource Locator (URL) has been sent from a server.

28. (Amended) An article of manufacture having one or more recordable media having a plurality of executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a processing device, cause the processing device to:

receive [an] multiple electronic documents [document] at a server that have [has] been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents [document] and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic [document] documents; and

allow access to a selected subset of the electronic documents [document] by using a security key and a document resource identifier[; and

automatically notify a publisher that an electronic document has been accessed].